

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path;

a carrying unit immovable in its entirety ~~which~~ carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit;

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body; ~~and~~

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged; ~~and~~

wherein the chamber of the carrying unit communicates with the atmosphere and is at atmospheric pressure.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein the carrying unit comprises a carrier body and at least one fastening web for fastening the carrier body to the valve body, and a through-hole is arranged in at least one fastening web and communicates with the atmosphere and is at atmospheric pressure on one side and is connected to the chamber of the carrying unit on the other side.

26. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 25, wherein there are at least two fastening webs which engage at different sides of the carrier body and extend in each instance between the carrier body and the valve body.

27. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 25, wherein the carrier body is arranged centrally in the through-channel.

28. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein there is arranged at the closure member at least one valve rod with which an actuating part of the adjusting device cooperates.

29. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 28, wherein the valve rod extends in axial direction of the through-channel.

30. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 28, wherein the valve rod is supported in or at the carrying unit so as to be displaceable.

31. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 30, wherein the closure member is fixed with respect to rotation around the axis of the valve rod relative to the carrying unit.

32. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 30, wherein the carrying unit has a guide connection piece extending in direction of the closure member, the valve rod being supported in or at the guide connection piece so as to be displaceable.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the valve seat is arranged at the valve body.

39. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the valve seat is flanged to the wall of a vacuum chamber to which the valve body is flanged.

40. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member has an elastic sealing ring which contacts a sealing surface of the valve seat in the closed position of the vacuum regulating valve.

41. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member is arranged inside an enlarged portion of the through-channel.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member is plate-shaped and is displaceable vertical to its plane.

44. (Previously Presented) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the through-channel penetrates the valve body in a straight line.

45. (New) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:
a valve body with a through-channel;
a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of

the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path;

a carrying unit which carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit;

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body; and

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged,

wherein there is arranged at the closure member at least one valve rod with which an actuating part of the adjusting device cooperates,

wherein the valve rod is supported in or at the carrying unit so as to be displaceable,

wherein the carrying unit has a guide connection piece extending in direction of the closure member, the valve rod being supported in or at the guide connection piece so as to be displaceable,

wherein a sealing ring is provided for sealing the chamber in the carrying unit relative to the through-channel and seals the valve rod relative to the guide connection piece.

46. (New) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path; and

a carrying unit which carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit,

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the

valve body,

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged,

wherein there is arranged at the closure member at least one valve rod with which an actuating part of the adjusting device cooperates,

wherein the valve rod is supported in or at the carrying unit so as to be displaceable,

wherein the carrying unit has a guide connection piece extending in direction of the closure member, the valve rod being supported in or at the guide connection piece so as to be displaceable,

wherein bellows are provided for sealing the chamber in the carrying unit relative to the through-channel of the valve body and are arranged at the carrying unit on one side and at the closure member or at the valve rod on the other side.

47. (New) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path; and

a carrying unit which carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit,

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body,

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged,

wherein there is arranged at the closure member at least one valve rod with which an actuating part of the adjusting device cooperates,

wherein the valve rod has a bore hole which proceeds from its free end and extends in

axial direction, which bore hole is a pocket hole and is provided with a female thread with which a male thread of the actuating part which can be set in rotation by the drive unit engages.

48. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 47, wherein the actuating part is a spindle which is arranged in the chamber of the carrying unit and is supported at the carrying unit so as to be rotatable and can be driven via a transmission part by the drive unit arranged outside the valve body.

49. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 47, wherein the actuating part is an output shaft of the drive unit arranged inside the chamber of the carrying unit.

50. (New) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path; and

a carrying unit which carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit,

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body,

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged,

wherein the closure member is arranged outside the through-channel of the valve body.

51. (New) A regulating valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

wherein a sealing ring is arranged at the closure member or valve seat, which sealing ring contacts the other of these two parts in the closed position and seals the closure member relative to the valve body;

an adjusting device for adjusting the closure member over the control path, which adjusting device has a drive unit; and

an immovable carrying unit which carries the closure member and is supported so as to be displaceable relative to the closure member, wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body, and the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which a portion of the adjusting device is arranged, wherein the adjusting device is guided out of the valve body so as to be sealed relative to the through-channel through the carrying unit and through the valve body.